



CITY OF BRUNSWICK

1 W. Potomac Street • Brunswick, Maryland 21716 • (301) 834-7500

MAYOR AND COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

Ordinance No. 485–2007 Master Plan Amendment to add Chapter 8 Water Resource Element in accordance with House Bill 1141–Bruce Dell
Gives brief background. Staff report attached.

Tome–Questions if County approves draft Water/Sewer plan, how will that affect Brunswick’s plan?

Dell–This is a requirement of the State of Maryland. The County has a Water Resource Element specific to the County, and Brunswick has one specific to Brunswick.

Smith–Questions how the County is addressing areas such as New Addition, etc?

Dell–At this time there are no agreements with the County regarding New Addition.

No public comment.

Zoning Ordinance–Wind & Solar Text Amendments–Kim Mezzanotte
Gives brief background. Staff report attached. Staff received documents from Frederick County today regarding their permitting process for wind & solar. States the proposed ordinance is exactly as it was at the last Public Hearing.

Carlos Fernandez–Doesn’t agree with the 20 foot setback guideline in the wind text amendment. Believes more residents could take advantage of wind systems if the setbacks were smaller. Believes crafting an ordinance that is right for Brunswick is important...not just simply copying someone else’s ordinance. Believes this ordinance is crafted primarily for roof-mounted systems...there are no roof-mounted units available for state grants.

Mayor–Questions how feasible wind units are for Brunswick?

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009, 7:15 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE

ROLL CALL—Johnson, Biser, Bowie, Stull, Tome, Smith—all present

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Police Officers Swearing In

Stephanie Sparks reads oath. Mayor swears in.

James Piccirilli reads oath. Mayor swears in.

Mayor mentions automobile accident in Square Corner Park over weekend.

Mayor mentions passing of Jerry Pearrell and Mary Cooper and Keith Sparrow.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Finance Committee—September 15, 2009

Mayor & Council—September 8 & 22, 2009

Motion to approve—Stull

2nd—Bowie

Vote 6-0

STAFF REPORTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recreation—Jody Bruchey

Staff report attached.

Planning & Zoning—Bruce Dell

Staff report attached.

Public Works—Al Danaher

Staff report attached.

Police—Chief Frech

Staff report attached.

Water—Patrick Hoffmaster

Staff report attached.

Waste Water—Patrick Hoffmaster

Staff report attached.

Code Enforcement—Dave Dunn

Staff report attached.

Chester Engineering–Dave Dunn (Rick Travers unable to attend)
Staff report attached.

CITIZENS' FORUM
No public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 485–2007 Master Plan Amendment to add Chapter 8 Water Resource Element in accordance with House Bill 1141

Motion to approve–Stull

2nd–Bowie

Vote 6-0

Zoning Ordinance–Wind & Solar Text Amendments

Mayor–Text amendments outline a lot of things that aren't allowed...what is allowed under this amendment?

Bruce Dell–The City is in a poor wind area. Some roof-mount wind units are allowed. Solar panels are allowed.

Karin Tome–Does the City have properties that could put up an independent wind unit, not mounted on a roof?

Bruce Dell/Kim Mezzanotte–Yes. As long as the setback is 20 feet off of the property line.

Karin Tome–Points out that the City can't do something more restrictive than County. The County will be permitting all Brunswick residents' wind units and will require a building permit, at the least.

Jeremy Biser–Clarifies misunderstanding that the City can make an ordinance less restrictive in terms of setbacks, than the County.

Kim Mezzanotte–Staff doesn't believe this ordinance is overly restrictive.

Lengthy discussion regarding setbacks and Frederick County permitting process.

Mayor–Understand the solar part of this document. Doesn't see the feasibility of wind portion of this document for Brunswick. Believes wind power and cost will be prohibitive to Brunswick residents.

Dave Dunn—Asks the Mayor if he wishes to table this issue?

Smith—Motion to approve ordinance as written

2nd—Stull

Johnson—Would like to pass an ordinance that benefits the whole City, but doesn't feel this one does.

Kim Mezzanotte—Mentions that one thing that hasn't been brought up is the noise associated with having no setbacks. If wind towers are placed close to property lines, neighbors will hear the noise.

Vote 3-3, Johnson, Biser, and Tome opposed

Motion to bring back solar portion of this ordinance to next meeting for re-vote, and send wind portion back to Planning Commission with more information—Biser

2nd—Tome

Smith—Council has had two meeting to discuss this. Thinks having Planning Commission look at this again is ridiculous.

Vote 3-3, Johnson, Biser, Tome

Biser—Amends motion to bring back solar portion in separate ordinance for approval

2nd—Tome

Vote 6-0

Carlos Fernandez—What if a citizen wants to put up a wind tower?

Mayor—One resident has come forward to show interest in this so far...doesn't believe Brunswick has the interest.

Biser—Motion to instruct staff to bring back more information as to how many Brunswick lots would qualify

2nd—Stull

Vote 5-1, Smith opposed

Campground Fee Increase—Walt Stull

Proposed rate chart attached.

Motion to approve—Stull

2nd—Bowie

Vote 6-0

Approved By: Carlos Fernandez 11/10/09
Mayor Date

Witnessed By: [Signature] 11/10/09
City Administrator Date